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## REPORT

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REPORTS POLITICAL PURGES

14 PERSONS ARRESTED -- Argentinisches Tageblatt, No 19, 458, 31 Mar 50

On 30 March five members of the Christian Democratic Party were arrested in Potsdam, among them the local burgomaster, Herr (fnu) Koehler, and Dr (fnu) Schluessner, chairman of the Potsdam Christian Democratic fraction and member of the Brandenburg Land Parliament. During the Weimar Republic, Schluessner was State Secretary of the Prussian Finance Ministry, but was relieved from the post by the Nazis. He committed suicide recently.

According to the DPA news agency, nine other persons were arrested on 21 March in Altenburg, Thuringen, for "resistance to the state." Five of them belonged to the National Democratic Party (NDP), two to the Socialist Unity Party (SED), and two to the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP). All of them were accused of having distributed illegal pamphlets.

Three leaders of the SED, Gustav Heinrich, chief of trade operations for Berlin's East Sector; Hermann Beuk, who was connected with the Bureau of Price Standards of the East Berlin Municipal Administration; and (fnu) Busse, president of the central organization of agricultural cooperatives in Soviet Zone Germany, have disappeared. It is possible that Busse, who was accused of economic sabotage, is being held in Berlin. Heinrich and Beuk has previously been dismissed from their posts without notice.

FOUST CHAIRMAN OF LEIPZIG CDU -- Taegliche Rundschau, No 31, 5 Feb 50

The executive of the Christian Democratic Union (CDU) in Leipzig has dismissed regional chairman (fnu) Ruland, who had incurred the party's disfavor by supporting the policy of Eickmann.

In a recent proclamation, Leipzig's judges and state's attorneys criticized Ruland's behavior, insisting that he no longer merited his position as the supreme judge in the Sachsen judicial system.

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MINISTER RESIGNS -- Der Demokrat, No 30, 4 Feb 50

Fritz Schwob, Minister of Labor and Social Welfare for Brandenburg, tendered his resignation in accordance with a resolution passed by the CDU Land Committee on 31 January 1950.

In the same session, Herr (fnu) Graef, Stadtrat [municipal counsel] of Teltow, was suspended from the party because his conduct was considered injurious to the party and the bloc.

WILL TRADE WHEN GOVERNMENT IS RECOGNIZED -- Bórsen, No 73, 14 Mar 50

During a meeting at the Leipzig Trade Fair, held 5 - 12 March, a representative of the German Democratic Republic, Dr Schact, told 300 Danish businessmen that there will be no trade between Denmark and Soviet Zone Germany so long as the Danish government does not recognize the People's Democratic government in Eastern Germany. However, present trade agreements will remain in effect until their expiration. The Danes returned to their country without negotiating any business deals.

SCHOOLS TRAIN COMMUNISTS -- Dagens Nyheter, No 75, 18 Mar 50

Small groups of Western European Communists are being trained clandestinely at the Karl Marx Schule in Kleinmachow, just outside Berlin, and at Greifswald University. The Karl Marx Schule is a miniture version of the Lenin School in Moscow. These are the two main centers in Germany at which students are indoctrinated with Marxist teachings.

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